

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 07075 231604Z

43

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: AD HOC GROUP REQUEST FOR NEW GUIDANCE

REF: A. MBFR VIENNA 513

B. MBFR VIENNA 507

C. USNATO 6715

D. STATE 263866

E. STATE 158623

F. USNATO 3806

G. USNATO 6930

H. STATE 221663

SUMMARY: THIS MESSAGE PRESENTS MISSION RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING WASHINGTON GUIDANCE REGARDING THE AD HOC GROUP'S DECEMBER 12 REQUEST FOR NEW NAC GUIDANCE. END SUMMARY.

SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 07075 231604Z

1. THE AD HOC GROUP ON DECEMBER 12 SUBMITTED ITS CUSTOMARY END-OF-THE-ROUND REQUEST TO THE NAC FOR GUIDANCE IN THE NEXT NEGOTIATING ROUND (REF A). NAC GUIDANCE, IN RESPONSE TO THE AHG REQUEST, WILL OF COURSE DEPEND ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM CAPITALS.

2. MISSION BELIEVES IT USEFUL TO NOTE NATO'S EXPERIENCE WITH THE LAST AHG REQUEST FOR GUIDANCE, THAT OF JULY 23. THE U.S. WAS THE ONLY ALLY TO INITIATE PROPOSALS ON USE OF DATA. ALL MAJOR GUIDANCE WHICH THE NAC TRANSMITTED TO THE AHG IN RESPONSE TO THAT REQUEST WAS BASED ON INSTRUCTED PROPOSALS MADE BY THE U.S. IN THE SPC. THIS WAS TRUE OF DEFINITION OF GROUND FORCES, THE NON-INCREASE COMMITMENT ON AIR MANPOWER, AND THE PHASE LINKAGE QUESTIONS (DURATION OF NON-INCREASE COMMITMENT AND FIXED PERIOD BETWEEN PHASES). OF COURSE, OTHER ALLIES MAY BE MORE ACTIVE AS INITIATORS OF PROPOSALS REGARDING THE CURRENT AHG REQUEST, AS EVIDENCED BY INTEREST BY EUROPEANS IN A COUNTER PROPOSAL TO THE EASTERN FREEZE PROPOSAL.

3. THE AHG REQUEST CALLS FOR GUIDANCE ON THE DEFINITIVE ALLIED RESPONSE TO THE EASTERN FREEZE PROPOSAL. MISSION AGREES WITH VIENNA IN REF B THAT THE ALLIES NEED TO DISPOSE OF THE EASTERN FREEZE PROPOSAL, AND THE U.S. MAY WISH TO PROPOSE IN THE SPC OUTRIGHT REJECTION AS AN INITIAL POSITION. NEVERTHELESS, THERE IS STRONG SUPPORT AMONG THE OTHER ALLIES FOR SOME KIND OF A COUNTER-PROPOSAL, BASED ON PRECEPTIONS BY THE ALLIES OF THEIR REQUIREMENTS MIS-A-VIS DOMESTIC OPINION.

4. THE U. S. WILL NEED TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THIS STRONGLY HELD VIEW OF THE OTHER ALLIES. MISSION NOTES THAT PARA 8 IN VIENNA'S REF B COULD SERVE AS THE BASIS FOR A FORM OF COUNTER-PROPOSAL, I.E. TO PROPOSE AGAIN TO THE EAST, IN A UNIFIED MANNER, THE EXISTING ALLIED PROPOSALS FOR NON-INCREASE COMMITMENTS ON GROUND FORCES AND AIR MANPOWER, AS CONTAINED IN C-M(74)30(REVISED), ADDENDUM 2 TO C-M(74)30(REVISED), AND C-M(74)83, WHILE DRAWING ON SOME OF THE ARGUMENTATION IN PARA 8, REF B CONCERNING THE EASTERN FREEZE. WASHINGTON GUIDANCE SHOULD INCLUDE COMMENT ON THE UK COUNTER-PROPOSAL, AS CONTAINED IN PARA 4, REF C.

5. THE AHG REQUEST FOR NAC GUIDANCE ALSO CITES THE U.S. PROPOSAL RE INCLUSION OF AIR MANPOWER IN THE COMMON
SECRET

PAGE 03 NATO 07075 231604Z

CEILING, FOR WHICH THE MISSION HAS SUFFICIENT INSTRUCTIONS.

6. THE AHG REQUEST, IN PARA 7, ASKS NAC GUIDANCE ON USE OF AIRMANPOWER DATA UNDER THE U.S. PROPOSAL RE INCLUSION OF AIR MANPOWER IN THE COMMON CEILING. MISSION HAS SUFFICIENT INSTRUCTIONS ON THIS MATTER AS WELL, IN PARA II B(1), REF D(THE U.S. PAPER ON AIR MANPOWER), WHICH CALLED FOR MAKING A NON-NUMERIC STATEMENT OF THE LEVEL OF THE COMMON CEILING, AND IF THE EAST WISHED FURTHER CLARIFICATION, OFFERING TO EXCHANGE AIR MANPOWER DATA RECIPRICALLY.

7. THE AHG REQUEST IN PARA 8 AGAIN RAISES THE QUESTION OF UNILATERAL ALLIED PRESENTATION TO THE PACT OF REVISED DATA ON GROUND FORCE TOTALS FOR BOTH SIDES. THE SPC CONSIDERED THE U.S.

PROPOSAL FOR UNILATERAL, NON-RECIPROCAL USE OF THE REVISED TOTALS ONLY TWO MONTHS AGO, AND STRONG OPPOSITION BY THE UK, FRG AND BELGIUM PREVENTED SPC AGREEMENT. THE ALLIES INSTEAD AGREED TO THE U.S. PROPOSAL FOR A COMPROMISE, I.E. TO TELL THE EAST THAT OUR DATA SHOWED SMALL INCREASES OF ABOUT THE SAME MAGNITUDE ON BOTH SIDES, WITHOUT GIVING THE EAST THE NUMBERS. MISSION WILL NEED INSTRUCTIONS ON WHETHER WASHINGTON WISHES US TO REOPEN THIS ISSUE.

8. THE AHG ASKS GUIDANCE REGARDING THE FORM OF THE PHASE I AGREEMENT OF THE MULTILATERAL COMMITMENTS RELATING TO IT. THIS IS AN ISSUE WHICH THE UMS. HAS CONSIDERED PREMATURE IN THE PAST, FOR THE REASONS STATED IN REF E. MISSION WILL NEED TO KNOW OF WASHINGTON HAS COME TO ANY CONCLUSIONS YET WHICH IT MIGHT WISH ADDRESSED IN SPC.

9. VERIFICATION ALSO FIGURES IN AHG REQUEST FOR GUIDANCE. LAST SPC DISCUSSION OF MAJOR VERIFICATION ISSUES WAS JULY 5, WHEN ALLIES DECIDED NOT TO RETURN TO VERIFICATION PENDING RESULTS OF ANY BILATERALS BETWEEN, AND ENCOURAGEMENT FROM, INTERESTED COUNTRIES (REF F). MISSION WILL NEED TO KNOW WHETHER WASHINGTON WISHES SPC TO RETURN TO VERIFICATION AT THIS TIME. THE SPC COULD RESUME WORK ON THE BRACKETED FIFTH VERSION OF ITS VERIFICATION PAPER (ISD/61(5TH REVISION), IN LIGHT OF MBFR WORKING GROUP MILITARY-TECHNICAL WORK ON AERIAL INTERSECTION AND FOE POST MONITORING. HOWEVER, THE BASIC POLITICAL ISSUE ON VERIFICATION REMAINS UNRESOLVED. GIVEN THE CONTINUED STRONG
SECRET

PAGE 04 NATO 07075 231604Z

FRG VIEWS ON NEGOTIATED INSPECTION, A RESUMPTION OF SPC WORK WILL NOT SIGNIFICANTLY NARROW THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE FRG AND THE OTHER DIRECT PARTICIPANTS. MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY BONN'S VIEWS ON THIS MATTER. WASHINGTON MAY WISH TO DISCUSS THIS ISSUE FURTHER WITH THE FRG BILATERALLY BEFORE REQUESTING A RESUMPTION OF SPC WORK.

10. AHG REQUESTED GUIDANCE ON FLANK SECURITY. CURRENT STATUS OF SPC WORK ON THIS ISSUE DESCRIBED IN REF G. MISSION HAS WASHINGTON GUIDANCE (REF H), SHOULD ALLIES WISH TO RETURN TO THIS SUBJECT. AHG ALSO REQUESTED GUIDANCE ON PARA 31 NON-CIRCUMVENTION PROVISIONS. WASHINGTON HAS IN THE PAST CONSIDERED WORK ON THIS SUBJECT PREMATURE UNTIL THE ALLIES HAVE A BETTER IDEA OF THE CONTENT OF THE PHASE I AGREEMENT, AND MISSION WILL NEED TO KNOW IF THIS CONTINUES TO BE WASHINGTON'S POSITION. FINALLY, THE MISSION WILL NEED INSTRUCTIONS RE THE AHG QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE LEGAL AND PRACTICAL BASIS FOR COMPLIANCE WITH THE COLLECTIVE COMMON CEILING.

11. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE, AS REQUESTED ABOVE. SPC WILL NEXT CONSIDER THE AHG REQUEST FOR NAC GUIDANCE ON MONDAY, JANUARY 6.
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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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